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SOURCE Flaka e Vllaznimit, No 163, 1950.

#### YUGOSLAVIA ENCOURAGES ALBANIAN CULTURE

At the time of the liberation, Macedonia had a total of 81,173 Albanian illiterates. Of this number, about 24,000 have learned to read and write since 1944, through literacy courses organized by the government and mass organizations.

Ever since the liberation, the Party and the government have been promoting education in Albanian for the Albanian minority. At present, 241 Albanian schools, with 28,658 pupils and 496 teachers, are in operation in Macedonia, as well as nine 7-year schools with 220 pupils. In Macedonian 4-year Gymnasias there are 19 Albanian groups with 781 pupils, and there are 76 Albanian students in other middle schools in Macedonia.

By the end of 1948, the government and popular organizations had built 56 new school buildings in Albanian villages. Many Albanian students have scholarships in universities and other institutions of higher learning.

In Macedonia there are 41 Albanian libraries with 39,187 books, 3 cultural centers, 16 popular universities (not to be confused with universities), and 49 mixed libraries (i.e., containing some Albanian books), with 4,907 volumes. Last year, the Macedonian government spent 1,200,000 dinars on cultural and artistic societies. At the beginning of 1950, a theater was founded for the Albanian and Turkish Minorities in Macedonia. The weekly paper Flaka e Vllaznimit has a circulation of 7,000 copies, and Grueja e Re has 3,000. The new children's paper Pionere was first published this year.

Today, there are 17 farm workers' cooperatives with a membership of 581 families in Albanian villages in Macedonia, and 587 Albanian families are members of 38 other rural cooperatives.

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